Representations from Tobacco Growers to Government

1926. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tobacco exporters of Andhra Pradesh have recently represented to Government regarding their grievances;

(b) if so, how many of such representations reached Government;

(c) what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken to redress the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Indian Tobacco Association, Guntur have requested Government to extend further advance technical credit to Russia for purchasing the balance of 5400 MTs of tobacco out of 15000 MTs of tobacco earlier contracted for export Government would favourably consider a further Russian request for technical credit if it is utilised for exports of the balance quantities of tobacco mentioned above.

Newsprint contract of STC

1927. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that STC propose to go in for a commercial settlement in respect of its dispute with the Meteor Paper Ltd., of London for a news print contract despite the fact that the matter is under investigation of CBI;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for settling the issues without waiting for the CBI enquiry; and

(c) what are the issues involved which are being investigated by the CBI?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Ministry of Commerce or STC is not aware of investigation of the case by the CBI. However, as a part of commercial transaction, STC has reached an agreement with M/s. Meteor Paper Ltd., London in June, 1992 for making payment against supply of newsprint by the foreign supplier.

Impact of new Export-Import Policy

1928. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the impact of the new Export and Import policy on exports during the last three months;

(b) the value of exports made in various sectors since April, 1992 indicating whether the export to General Currency Area countries have increased;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what further steps are proposed to be taken to increase/improve this export position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Since the announcement of the new Export-Import Policy, the trade data has become available only for the first two months of the current financial year i.e. April-May, 1992. According to the provisional figures, India's aggregate exports amounted to Rs. 7663.43 crores during April-May, 1992, as compared to Rs. 5606.04 crores during April-May, 1991, thereby registering a growth of 36.7 per cent. The exports to the General Currency Area (GCA) countries amounted to Rs. 7278.79 crores during April-May, 1992 as compared to